

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10 /060 W
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O 062325Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACI IMMEDIATE 7425

INFO AMCONSULSSALI

AMCONSUL MEDELLIN

UNCLAS BOGOTA 2176

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, CO, CU

SUBJECT: RENEWAL OF COLOMBIAN/CUBAN RELATIONS

1. FOREIGN MINISTER LIEVANO ANNOUNCED EARLY THIS EVENING
THAT "AS OF THIS MOMENT" FORMAL RELATIONS BETWEEN
COLOMBIA AND CUBA HAVE BEEN REESTABLISHED.

2. INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF TEXT OF DECLARATION FOLLOWS:

"THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA AND THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA HAVE EFFECTED THROUGH THE SWISS
EMBASSY IN HAVANA THE NECESSARY CONSULTATIONS ON THE REESTABLISH-
MENT OF THEIR RELATIONS. INSPIRED BY THE UNCHANGING
SENTIMENTS OF FRIENDSHIP WHICH HAVE UNITED THE PEOPLES OF COLOMBIA
AND CUBA SINCE THE WAR OF INDEPENDENCE, INITIATED BY CUBAN
PATRIOTS ON THE 10TH OF OCTOBER 1868 (WHICH HAD THE FULL
SUPPORT OF THE COLOMBIAN NATION AND THE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION
OF ITS CITIZENS), THE GOVERNMENTS OF BOTH COUNTRIES IN
EXERCISE OF THEIR SOVEREIGNTY AND PURSUANT TO THE
PRINCIPLES OF JURIDICAL EQUALITY OF STATES, BW
MUTUAL RESPECT, OF RECIPROCAL BENEFIT AND OF LATIN
AMERICAN UNITY, HAVE AGREED TO REESTABLISH IN FULL
AS OF THIS DATE THEIR DIPLOMATIC, CONSULAR COMMERCIAL AND
COMMUNICATIONS RELATIONS AT THE EMBASSY LEVEL AND WILL
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PROCEED WITH THE EXCHANGE OF AMBASSADORS IN DUE COURSE.

IN CREDENCE OF WHICH THEY FORMULATE THIS DECLARATION
IN BOGOTA AND HAVANA THE 6TH DAY OF MARCH 1975".

3. LIEVANO MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS IN REPLY
TO REPORTERS QUESTIONS: "THE EXCHANGE OF AMBASSADORS
BETWEEN COLOMBIA AND CUBA REQUIRES A PREVIOUS ARRANGEMENT
OF MUTUAL AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR "AGREEMENTS"
OF THE RESPECTIVE MISSIONS".

4. "FURTHERMORE PRIOR AGREEMENT IS NEEDED ON THE COMPOSITION
OF THE RESPECTIVE DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS. COLOMBIA AND CUBA
HAVE FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AS OF THIS MOMENT".

5. "AS I HAD OCCASION TO SAY PREVIOUSLY, THE CLEAR PURPOSE
OF THE COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT IS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE
STRENGTHENING OF THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM. WE ARE DIS-
MANTLING THE COLD WAR IN LATIN AMERICA AT A TIME WHEN
OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE ALREADY DONE SO".

6. "THE OAS IS NOT GOING TO SUFFER TRAUMAS WITH THIS
DISMANTLING OF THE COLD WAR". ..."THE SAME IS TRUE WITH
THE INTERAMERICAN TREATY OF MUTUAL ASSISTANCE".

7. HE FURTHER EXPLAINED THAT THE OAS AND THE INTER-
AMERICAN TREATY OF MUTUAL ASSISTANCE ARE "ELEMENTS
THAT WE ARE GOING TO DEFEND AND STRENGTHEN".

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT, TEXT, TRANSLATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BOGOTA02176
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750079-0404
From: BOGOTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750378/aaaacrvtel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 MAY 2003 by BalzMJ>; APPROVED <25 FEB 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RENEWAL OF COLOMBIAN/CUBAN RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, CO, CU, (LIEVANO AGUIRRE, INDALECIO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006